

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News; Medical Economics; Correspondence; Twenty-five Years Ago column; Department of Public Health; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings

American College of Surgeons, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, October 28 to November 1, 1935. Howard C. Naffziger, M. D., 384 Post Street, San Francisco, Chairman.

California Medical Association, Coronado, May 25-28, 1936. Frederick C. Warnshuis, M. D., 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Secretary.

Nevada State Medical Association, Elko, Nevada, October 25-26, 1935. Horace J. Brown, P. O. Box 698, Reno, Secretary.

Oregon State Medical Society, Gearhart, September 19-21, 1935. Blair Holcomb, M. D., Stevens Building, Portland, Secretary.

Pacific Coast Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Los Angeles, November 6-9, 1935. T. Floyd Bell, M. D., 400 Twenty-ninth Street, Oakland, Secretary.

Medical Broadcasts*

San Francisco County Medical Society.—The radio broadcast program for the San Francisco County Medical Society for the month of September is as follows:

Tuesday, September 3—KJBS, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Vaccines and Serums.
Thursday, September 5—KFRC, 1 p. m. Subject: Vaccines and Serums.
Tuesday, September 10—KJBS, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Too Much Sugar.
Thursday, September 12—KFRC, 1 p. m. Subject: Too Much Sugar.
Tuesday, September 17—KJBS, 11:15 a. m. Subject: New Diabetics for Old.
Thursday, September 19—KFRC, 1 p. m. Subject: New Diabetics for Old.
Tuesday, September 24—KJBS, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Dietary Delusions.
Thursday, September 26—KFRC, 1 p. m. Subject: Dietary Delusions.

Los Angeles County Medical Association.—The radio broadcast program for the Los Angeles County Medical Association for the month of September is as follows:

Tuesday, September 3—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Alcoholism 1.
Saturday, September 7—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: Alcoholism 1.
Saturday, September 7—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.
Tuesday, September 10—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Alcoholism 2.
Saturday, September 14—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: Alcoholism 2.
Saturday, September 14—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.
Tuesday, September 17—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Alcoholism 3.
Saturday, September 21—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: Alcoholism 3.
Saturday, September 21—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.
Tuesday, September 24—KECA, 11:15 a. m. Subject: Oddities No. 7.
Saturday, September 28—KFI, 9 a. m. Subject: Oddities No. 7.
Saturday, September 28—KFAC, 10:15 a. m. Subject: Your Doctor and You.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged (stating station, day, date and hour, and subject) to CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, 450 Sutter Street, San Francisco, for inclusion in this column.

Papers for the 1936 Annual Session at Coronado—Notice to Members.—Any member of the California Medical Association who wishes to present a paper before any of the sections at the annual meeting in Coronado on May 25 to 28, 1936, is requested to communicate with the Association or section secretaries. The roster of section officers is printed in each issue on advertising page 4.

Reliable Apparatus—An American Medical Association Leaflet Sent to You Upon Request.—CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE has received from the American Medical Association a small pamphlet containing a list of the apparatus accepted by the Council on Physical Therapy, the first one published under the direction and supervision of the Council. In addition to the list and description of accepted apparatus, the pamphlet contains indications for the use of each type and a statement relative to efficacies and dangers.

This pamphlet is a real contribution on the part of the American Medical Association in behalf of rational therapeutics—an effort to help place physical therapy on a sound, scientific basis for the benefit of the medical profession.

One of the purposes of the Council on Physical Therapy is to protect the medical profession, and thereby the public, against inefficient and possibly dangerous apparatus and against misleading and deceptive advertising in connection with the manufacture and sale of devices for physical therapy.

"Apparatus Accepted" includes all the devices accepted by the Council prior to May, 1935. Any physician can obtain this pamphlet free by writing to the Secretary, Council on Physical Therapy, A. M. A., 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

State Senator Edward H. Tickle of Carmel—Article Concerning His Interest in Compulsory Health Insurance.—The following news item was printed in the *San Francisco News* of July 31, 1935:

"*Health*.—You're likely to hear presently that SERA is about to undertake a payroll survey in California. Since SERA is vitally concerned with payrolls and with cementing a relationship between them and the unemployed, this will seem a normal piece of business for that organization to be promoting. Actually, the promoter will be a figure lurking in the distant background, and his object will be something altogether different.

"If you borrow the Lick Observatory telescope and take a look, you'll discover the lurker is none other than State Senator Edward H. Tickle of Carmel, and he is busily pumping enough adrenalin into Health Insurance to make a dead horse get up and shout 'Hot-Cha!'

"Those close to the senator say he is convinced that instead of being thrown for a no-yard gain at the last session of the Legislature, Health Insurance actually got further than ever before in the history of the republic. So he is looking forward to the next session.

"*Prospect*.—From his point of view, the fight in the Legislature brought out all the opposition, so that it becomes possible to wear down all the counter-arguments by two methods—by assembly of evidence and by compromise.

"In the way of evidence, the senator wants to show that each one per cent of California payroll tax would raise eleven millions. That would dispose of a lot of fiscal arguments against Health Insurance. But he doesn't want to offer his own figures. He wants official, impartial government statistics. He's quite sure Harry Hopkins can be induced to get them.

"Naturally, he expects the survey to show that doctors would get more from a modest payroll tax than from ordinary fees—particularly when collections are reported down to 24 per cent in the \$1,500 patient-salary bracket, 45 per cent in the bracket up to \$5,000, and only 65 per cent above \$5,000."

Dr. Adolph Barkan Deceased.—As CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is going to press, we have received word that Dr. Adolph Barkan, formerly professor of ophthalmology and otology in Cooper Medical College, passed away in Zurich, Switzerland, August 28, in his ninety-first year.

Doctor Barkan is survived by his wife and four children—Hans, Fritz, Otto, and Fanny. The last is now Mrs. Eric Offermann of Zurich, her husband a teacher in the university, in electrical engineering. Fritz is in business in San Francisco, and Hans and Otto are worthy successors of their father in ophthalmology.

Doctor Barkan was a notable figure in the development of medical education in California and did much to build up the Lane Medical Library.

A detailed biographical sketch of Doctor Barkan will appear in a subsequent issue.

Los Angeles County Medical Association Plays Host for Day to Ninety British Doctors.—Ninety members of the British Medical Association, their wives and families, arrived in Los Angeles today on a special Santa Fe train en route to the association's convention in Australia.

Local doctors, headed by Dr. Edward M. Pallette, president-elect of the California Medical Association, greeted the visiting medical men and arranged a program of entertainment, including motion-picture studios and other points of interest.

The group remained in Los Angeles only twenty-four hours, proceeding to San Francisco, where forces were joined with another party which crossed Canada.

The British doctors attended a luncheon at the headquarters of the Los Angeles County Medical Association at 1925 Wilshire Boulevard and went on sight-seeing trips immediately afterward.

Leading the group on the tour, which eventually will have encircled the world, are: Dr. E. Kaye Le Fleming, chairman of the council of the British Medical Association; Dr. N. Bishop Harman, treasurer; Dr. H. Guy Dain, deputy chairman; and Dr. G. C. Anderson, medical secretary.

Dr. Edward Pallette, Dr. G. C. Toland, and Dr. Chalmers-Francis, all prominent in local medical circles, boarded the train in San Bernardino in order to make sure that arrangements went through as scheduled. The party visited the Grand Canyon.

Included in the British group were eight women doctors.—Los Angeles *Times*, August 12.

Library of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.—The library of the Los Angeles County Medical Association acknowledges the generous gift from the California Medical Association for several years to the Barlow Medical Library, and the resolution of 1935 giving twenty-five cents per member to the library of the Los Angeles County Medical Association "... in order to support the library in making available reference books to the doctors of California. . . ." This because of the "service to the medical profession throughout the State."

The librarian stated further:

"We are glad to express our willingness to cooperate in purchasing and supplying books and service to the members of the California Medical Association of the southern region. It has been the policy to answer all requests for limited research and loans, through inter-library loans as far as other libraries were available, and to individual doctors from Santa Barbara to San Diego. This will be continued and the service extended as far as possible, for it is the ambition of this library to be of the greatest use to the organized medical profession of the State.

"Suggestions for the purchase of books and magazines will be received and requests will be complied with as far as possible. The list of new accessions will be published in the JOURNAL if space is given for this purpose. This is now being done in the Bulletin of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

"Members of the California Medical Association from all parts of the State are particularly invited to visit the library and make use of it."

Oldest Practicing Physician Passes Century Milepost.—Dr. William Eberle Thompson of Bethel, Ohio, oldest practicing physician in the United States, observed his hundredth natal anniversary Saturday, July 6, at his home in the village where he was born, and all Bethel and much of the surrounding territory celebrated it with him. There was a public reception, at which Dr. John A. Caldwell, Cincinnati, president of the Ohio State Medical Association, was one of the speakers. Bethel Lodge of Odd Fellows, of which he has been venerable warden for many years, honored him with a special session, at which he performed the ritual initiating a class of candidates. He was much surprised that he received scores of birthday cards from all over the United States.

Doctor Thompson still cares for much of his practice, but remarked that, "I don't respond to many night calls—not unless I have to." He is in his seventy-sixth year of medical practice, and delivered a baby successfully, not long ago. He is one of twelve in his family to adopt medicine as a career, and is the oldest alumnus of the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, which graduated its last class in 1902.

American Public Health Association.—The sixty-fourth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association will be held in Milwaukee, on October 7 to 10.

Many health workers will be interested in the new Matthew Keenan Health Center, a \$200,000 gift to the City of Milwaukee. This center concentrates offices for health services on the northwest side. Its services include consultation and diagnosis in chest conditions, eye, ear, nose, and throat, x-ray examinations, immunizations for diphtheria, smallpox, typhoid and scarlet fevers, two dental clinics for indigent children and child welfare clinics.

The Milwaukee County institutions are located just west of the city and include an infirmary, a 1,000-bed county hospital, asylum for chronic insane, hospital for mental diseases, home for dependent children, Muirdale Tuberculosis Sanitarium, and Bluemound Preventorium. These buildings are located on a beautifully landscaped 1,100-acre tract. Another county building, the Dispensary-Emergency unit, is located near the center of the city.

The Bluemound Preventorium is the only institution of its kind in Wisconsin. Its effectiveness is evident because it is said that only two of the 1,900 children patients in the Preventorium in its nine years of work have later been obliged to enter Muirdale Tuberculosis Sanitarium for treatment.

The new Marquette University Medical School is located within walking distance of hotels and auditorium. It has an interesting display of pathological specimens. This building is a part of the health unit, embracing the physical education department, a dental school and clinic, student health service, and an eye, ear, nose, and throat hospital clinic. Dr. Eben J. Carey, dean of the Medical School, was the director of medical exhibits at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago.

Milwaukee has nine fresh air rooms and also schools for handicapped children. One of these is the Lapham Park School for Crippled Children which houses 140 youngsters, of whom about sixty are infantile paralysis cases. It also conducts, through the Department of Health, twenty-seven child welfare clinics, and numerous preschool clinics in cooperation with various women's organizations.

The Milwaukee Vocational School is one of the first and foremost schools of this type in the United States. It occupies an entire city block and is valued at \$5,000,000. Among the 203 courses offered, there is academic instruction for about four hundred student nurses being trained in the city's hospitals. Industrial rehabilitation work is conducted for crippled students.

Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association of North America.—The international assembly of the Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association of North America will be held in the beautiful Masonic Temple, Detroit, Michigan, October 14 to 18, 1935, with pre-assembly clinics on Saturday, October 12, and post-assembly clinics Saturday, October 19, in the Detroit hospitals.

The Association, through its officers and members of the Program Committee, extends a very cordial invitation to all physicians in good standing in their state and provincial medical societies to attend the assembly. An unusual clinical and didactic program, including all branches of medicine and surgery and the specialties, has been arranged by the Program Committee.

In coöperation with the Wayne County Medical Society and the Michigan State Medical Society, and with the active support of the Detroit Convention and Tourist Bureau and the Detroit Board of Commerce, a most excellent opportunity for an intensive week of postgraduate medical instruction is offered by a very large group of acknowledged leaders in the profession.

Attention is called to the list of teachers and clinicians who will take part on the program, which appears in the advertising section of this JOURNAL. (See advertising page 14.)

Registration fee of \$5 admits all members of the profession in good standing. Officers of the Association are: Dr. Charles H. Mayo, president, Rochester, Minnesota; Dr. George Crile, chairman of Program Committee, Cleveland, Ohio; and Dr. William B. Peck, managing director, Freeport, Illinois. Full information may be had from the managing director.

Doctors from Britain Feted by San Francisco County Medical Society.—In a "hands across the sea" luncheon at the Palace Hotel on August 13 in honor of a visiting party of more than one hundred leading members of the British Medical Association, a call for closer ties between English-speaking peoples was sounded.

Dr. E. Kaye Le Fleming, chairman of the council of the British association and leader of the visitors, who were en route to the association's convention in Melbourne, Australia, expressed the hope that "a firmer bond" would grow out of the party's trip across the United States.

"We must show the way to other nations," he declared.

Confidence that great good would result was expressed by the distinguished visitor "because all along our route we have encountered a wonderful spirit of good fellowship."

"For our part," he continued, "never has there been such a pilgrimage across your country of men more able to speak for their profession in their own land."

Dr. J. C. Geiger, president of the San Francisco County Medical Society, which acted as host, presided, and upset the tradition that the Britisher cannot be hurried at his meals.

Not only did Doctor Geiger carry the speaking program along without delay, the whole affair being over in an hour and a half, but the visiting delegates, with quiet amusement, expressed themselves as highly pleased with the swift pace.

Also at the speakers' table were: Dr. G. C. Anderson, secretary of the British association; Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, president of Stanford University and former president of the American Medical Association; British Consul A. C. Charlton; Father Harold E. Ring, president of the University of San Francisco; Dean Gresham of Grace Cathedral, and others.

The party of British medical men, their wives and friends, were taken on a sight-seeing tour of the city before sailing on the *Aorangi* for Australia.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, August 14.

Lane Medical Library.—The Lane Medical Library, with a book collection exceeding 85,000 volumes, is the largest medical library west of Chicago. Every effort has been made by Stanford University to serve the medical profession in the Pacific Coast area through its medical library. Books and journals are sent directly to physicians who have taken out membership in the Lane Medical Library (annual payment of \$10) and to others through the medium of inter-library loans, in which case the books or journals desired are forwarded to other libraries for the use of borrowers.

During the academic year 1933-1934, 17,012 volumes were lent to individual borrowers. Loans to other libraries and to out-of-town members totaled 1,085.

The staff of the Lane Medical Library is able to render prompt assistance to physicians in their use of the library and the literature. During recent years it has been a pleasure to assist many writers in the preparation of books and papers, particularly in connection with the bibliographical aspects of their work.

The maintenance of the largest current medical subscription list in the West (six hundred) would have been impossible during recent years except for the generous support which has been given to the library by individual members of the medical profession and by an annual grant from the California Medical Association. It would be a serious matter if the splendid collection of journals at the Lane Medical Library should have its growth suspended in view of the fact that many of these publications are not otherwise available in this area.

Relapsing Fever Carrier Is Found—Public Is Warned.—The carriers of relapsing fever, a comparatively new and severe disease for California, have been traced by University of California scientists to a species of tick found in the mountainous parts of the State. Relapsing fever, common in the tropics and frequently encountered in Africa, is rarely fatal, but has become a definite health menace in California. It not only causes severe illness soon after infection, but repeated relapses before it has run its course.

Vacationists and residents in the high Sierra are asked to keep a close lookout for this tick and to promptly report any infection to the nearest health officer. The ticks feed at night for the most part. The body, when distended, has a strawberry red hue, except for the anterior point, which is whitish in color. Unlike other ticks, which have to be dislodged ordinarily, the relapsing fever tick drops off after it has engorged, this being accomplished usually in less than thirty minutes.

Two of the University scientists, C. M. Wheeler, assistant in entomology and parasitology, and George E. Coleman, research assistant in the Hooper Foundation of Medical Research, were themselves stricken with the disease while looking for the criminal vector. Characteristically enough, they helped develop the germ from specimens in their own blood, although too ill to stand on their feet, and materially assisted in finally identifying the transmitting tick. This tick is now described under the name *Ornithodoros hermsi*, after Professor W. B. Herms, chief entomologist of the College of Agriculture, who, with Dr. K. F. Meyer, director of the Hooper Foundation, directed the work of discovery.

The ticks were taken at Lake Tahoe and in the Big Bear region of San Bernardino County, and brought to Berkeley and San Francisco, where the disease was developed clinically in a number of mice and in a monkey. It was known previously that other species of the tick were responsible for the disease in Texas, Central America and other parts of the world, and this fact greatly aided in the California discovery.

The longevity of the incriminated ticks is remarkable. Several records show that adult females may remain alive for more than two years without food. Certain specimens remained alive for more than four years with but two feedings a year.

Three Hundred and Eighty-Eight Dollars Average United Stated Income During 1934.—Did you earn \$388 last year?

That is the income the Department of Commerce figures was received by the average American in 1934, according to United Press.

It was \$35 above the previous year because of government spending and wage increases but fell far under the \$628 average income in the prosperity year 1929.

The total national income last year was estimated at \$49,440,000,000, a gain of more than \$5,000,000,000 over income of \$44,431,000,000 in 1933 but far below the prosperity high of \$78,576,000,000 in 1929.

Based on a population of 127,000,000, the per capita income last year was \$388. Wages or salaries supplied \$260; professional services, \$63; dividends and interest, \$56 and rents and royalties, \$9.

All forms of income except interest payments showed gains over 1933 and all major industrial groups except electric light and power and manufactured gas reported higher earnings. . . .

Newsboy an Employee.—Of considerable interest is the recent case of Pacific Employers Insurance Company vs. Ind. Acc. Com. (and Davenport, 90 C. D. 12) in view of the troublesome question as to the status of newsboys.

This case, recently decided by the State Supreme Court, reverses an opinion of the District Court of Appeal (79 C. A. D. 978), and holds that the employee, Davenport, was not excluded from the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act by the 1931 amendment to Section 8 (a) which excludes "any person engaged in vending, selling, offering for sale, or delivering directly to the public, any newspaper, magazine or periodical where the title to such newspaper, magazine or periodical has passed to the person so engaged."

Mr. Davenport, the employee, had been selling the Sunday edition of the *Times* for two years, and it is admitted he was in the course of his employment when he was struck by an automobile and received the injuries for which the award of compensation was made. There was keen sales competition between the *Times* and another Los Angeles paper. The city circulation manager of the *Times* testified before the Commission that the *Times* was "interested and concerned with seeing that there was a boy selling (the *Times*) in each major location in which the (other paper) was being sold." The boys selling the *Times* were not allowed to sell any other paper. Mr. Davenport was one of the boys assigned to a particular location by direction of the district manager. It was his duty to sell the Sunday *Times* exclusively, for which he received two and a half cents for each paper sold, together with a "bonus" of fifty cents per day, paid by the *Times* for "selling the papers at that corner." In addition, the district manager made arrangements, as in other cases with other boys who went around the neighborhood selling Sunday papers, that they should "check in" with Mr. Davenport for papers sold by them. The "bonus" just referred to, was explained by the testimony before the Commission to be an amount determined by the circulation department to be paid to the boy at the corner to compensate him for being on his corner, as required, at all proper times "and (working) while he was there." This bonus when paid to a boy carried with it "the requirement of exclusive service." The boy's work must be satisfactory to the district manager, the circulation manager, and "to the *Times*." The hours for being at the corner were fixed by the district manager.

The court held that Mr. Davenport came squarely within the definition of the term "employee" contained in Section 8 (a) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and was not excluded from the provisions of the Act by virtue of the amendment to Section 8 (a) quoted above.

Major Causes of Illness Not Major Death Causes.—A sickness survey was recently made of approximately 40,000 persons, recording their various illnesses for a period of one year. It covered specific population groups in eighteen states, visited periodically for twelve months.

It was found that respiratory diseases, accidents and communicable diseases constitute nearly 70 per cent of the causes and that 60 per cent of all illness caused the patient to lose one or more days from work or school.

Heart and circulatory diseases are the most frequent causes of death, but were found to occupy eighth place as a cause of sickness. Illness was most frequently found under five years and was least frequent at fifteen to nineteen years.

Of the 40,000 individuals, 48 per cent were not sick at all during the year; 32 per cent were ill once, 13 per cent twice and 7 per cent three or more times.

These repeated illnesses were at their highest in infancy and early childhood and at twenty-five to thirty-five years of age, the adult peak probably being due to childbearing and its attending illnesses.

Taken as a whole the survey, including as it did all classes of population and every variety of living conditions, shows that incapacitating illness is largely preventable, since accidents, respiratory and the communicable diseases formed 70 per cent of the total. It also shows that at specific ages the major causes of death are not generally the most frequent causes of illness.

Sanford V. Larkey Given High Honor by Johns Hopkins.—News that he has been appointed librarian of the great William H. Welch Memorial Medical Library of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, has just been received by Dr. Sanford V. Larkey, librarian of the University of California Medical School.

This distinguished honor results from Doctor Larkey's outstanding achievements in applying the historical survey of medicine and science to present day problems. He developed a course in the history of medicine and sciences at the University of California Medical School that attracted wide attention, and has done much original work in these subjects at the British Museum in London and at the Huntington Library in Pasadena.

Doctor Larkey is a graduate in medicine from the University of California, receiving his M. D. degree in 1925. Previously he had received his A. B. degree from the University in 1921. Pursuing special work at Oxford after taking his medical degree, he obtained an M. A. degree from that university in 1928. He has been in charge of the Medical School library since 1930.

The William H. Welch Memorial Library at Johns Hopkins was organized in 1927 to honor the teacher of that name, who is regarded as one of the greatest to have ever been connected with the Johns Hopkins faculty. Doctor Welch was professor of the history of medicine, and the library was made up largely of the writings that he prepared and collected in his chosen field. The library not only serves the Johns Hopkins Hospital and medical school, but all of the departments of the university devoted to various branches of medical science.

Doctor Larkey will leave for his new post in the early fall.

Hooper Foundation Comes of Age—Has Saved Many Lives.—The Hooper Foundation of Medical Research, credited with saving thousands of California lives and millions of the state's money in the cause of public health, has come of age. It is observing its twenty-first natal year without ceremony or ostentation despite the fact that for years it has been regarded as one of the nation's chief ramparts against the spread of plagues and other diseases.

The Hooper Foundation, with like success, has fought pestilence in dark, poisonous tropical jungles

thousands of miles from San Francisco and has probed the nearby ocean depths to find the cause of the fiercely virulent shellfish disease. It developed the studies which led to the cure of pernicious anemia, for which its first director, Dr. George Hoyt Whipple, among others, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine for 1934. It saved the canning industry of the State from disaster by developing preventive measures against botulism, which have proved highly effective. It has gone down into the tropical leprosaria in order to help solve the baffling secrets of leprosy and to aid in developing a cure.

One of the notable achievements of the Hooper Foundation was the isolation by Dr. Karl F. Meyer, its present director, of the causative virus of equine encephalomyelitis or sleeping sickness, which killed ten thousand horses and mules in the State in three years and which has become a nation-wide menace, not only to horses but to man. The discovery of latent psittacosis or "parrot fever" in certain types of bird pets in California was another achievement.

The so-called occupational diseases, relapsing fever, undulant fever, and many other public health hazards have been definitely held in check through work done by the laboratories and skilled technicians of the Hooper Foundation. One of its greatest developments has been the Pacific Institute of Tropical Diseases which, under the direction of the foundation, has launched a far-flung attack on the many tropical and Oriental maladies that threaten an invasion of this country.

The idea of the Foundation was first conceived by George Williams Hooper, pioneer California industrialist, but he died before he could put his plan into effect. It was followed out by his widow, Mrs. Sophronia Hooper, who not only directed all of the terms of the original trust, but willed her own private fortune to the Foundation.

The Foundation was formally opened in 1914, in the veterinary science building of the old "affiliated colleges" in San Francisco, and is a part of the medical school of the University of California.

United States Food and Drug Research Expanded to Study Vitamins and Pharmacology.—Two Doctors Nelson have been appointed as chiefs of new divisions of the Food and Drug Administration, Dr. E. M. Nelson as chief of the Vitamin Division, and Dr. Erwin E. Nelson as chief of the Pharmacological Division. The Department of Agriculture announced recently that each is now assembling a staff taken in part from older units of the Department and in part recruited from specialists in the sciences involved in the work of the new divisions.

In announcing the creation of the new divisions, W. G. Campbell, chief of the Food and Drug Administration, emphasized the increasing importance of work in each of these fields and said that the work is so essential that it must be pushed, even though, for the time being, the required funds may have to be deducted from support of regulatory work. The Vitamin Division will check the claims and help establish standards for food and drugs for which claims of vitamin potency are made. The Food and Drug Administration has been doing some routine work of this sort, but it has been inadequate to meet the growing need.

The Pharmacological Division, in addition to more comprehensive testing of certain medicinal products, will pay particular attention to several relatively new fields of work—the testing and standardization of glandular preparations put on the market in recent years, investigations of the effect of poisons and impurities present in foods, and testing of the effects of new synthetic chemicals used in foods and medicines. Of the poisons and impurities, the question of spray residues on fruits and vegetables is now most pressing. In regulating interstate commerce in sprayed products, the department is urgently in need of more positive and authoritative guides to safe practice, Mr. Campbell explains. . . .

Dr. Marion Dorset Dead.—A brilliant scientific career devoted to public service was ended with the death of Dr. Marion Dorset on July 14 at his home in Washington, D. C., after an illness of a few days. As a research worker in biological chemistry and chief of the Biochemic Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Doctor Dorset gained an international reputation for contributions having useful application in the livestock, meat and dairy industries and in public health.

Although known especially for his research studies of hog cholera and his discovery of an effective preventive serum treatment for this devastating scourge, Doctor Dorset made many other important scientific contributions covering a wide field.

They included research studies on the tubercle bacillus, keeping qualities of meats, composition and nutritive value of various meats and meat food products, the development and testing of disinfectants and dipping preparations, biological products used against animal diseases, research in dairy bacteriology, and extensive related work. His production of a harmless and effective fluid for marking federally inspected meats has saved the United States Government millions of dollars through the greater economy of this method over the former practice of using tags.

Doctor Dorset likewise proposed and outlined many investigations which his associates carried out with beneficial results to agriculture and public welfare. One of these was the rapid method of detecting pullorum disease in chickens, a discovery that has been a boon to the poultry industry. In connection with the nation-wide campaign to eradicate bovine tuberculosis, all the tuberculin used by federal veterinarians has been produced under the immediate supervision of Doctor Dorset. . . .

On the occasion of his discovery of antihog cholera serum, Doctor Dorset had the opportunity to acquire wealth through the manufacture and sale of this product for which a large demand promptly developed. But after applying for and receiving a patent, he gave it to the Government and to the public so that any person in the United States might use the method without the payment of royalty.

Doctor Dorset organized the federal inspection of establishments licensed to manufacture serums, viruses, toxins, and related veterinary biological products. He likewise formulated the laboratory procedures in the administration of the Federal Meat Inspection Act. He was a member of numerous scientific bodies and frequently presented papers at national and international meetings. . . .

CORRESPONDENCE

Concerning editorial entitled "A Libel on the California State Board of Health (August issue, page 107).

WESTERN BRANCH, AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

August 20, 1935.

To the Editor:—Your editorial in the August number, commenting upon my address in New Mexico, calls for a statement and an interpretation from me.

First, the quotation used as a basis for the original article in the *New Mexico Health Officer* (June, 1935) was taken from uncorrected and unedited stenographic notes. Unintentionally, they do not present an accurate account of what was said or what was intended to be conveyed.

The speaker was attempting to present the necessity in a public health program for properly trained health officials with satisfactory tenure of office, working under sound organization with adequate budgets—the whole free from partisan political control.